NORTH DAKOTA CROP, LIVESTOCK & WEATHER REPORT

North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service

Cooperating With:
NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE,
FARM SERVICE AGENCY,
ND AG WEATHER NETWORK (NDAWN) and
UND AEROSPACE REGIONAL WEATHER INFORMATION CENTER

Released: April 18, 2005
For Week Ending: April 17, 2005
ND-CW1605

General: Welcomed rains came across most of the state last week, according to the North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. Producers in the north central and northeast districts continued to wait for soils to warm up and dry out before planting begins. Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 7 percent very short, 21 short, 67 adequate and 5 surplus. This compared with the five-year (2000-2004) average of 5 percent very short, 16 short, 67 adequate and 12 surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were rated 11 percent very short, 24 short, 60 adequate and 5 surplus.

The statewide average starting date for fieldwork was April 14, same as last year. Expected starting dates ranged from April 6 in the southwest district to April 21 in the northeast. Statewide, on average, there were 4.3 days suitable for field work.

Crops: Small grain seeding continued, slightly ahead of the five-year average. Eleven percent of the hard red spring wheat was seeded compared with 17 percent last year and 8 percent average. Six percent of the barley and durum wheat were seeded compared with 3 and 2 percent average, respectively. Dry edible peas were 5 percent seeded, while canola was 4 percent. Sugarbeet planting began with 1 percent planted, behind the average of 6 percent.

Livestock: Calving and lambing continued with little to no problems reported. Calving was 76 percent complete and lambing was 86 percent complete compared with 77 and 85 percent last year, respectively. Shearing was 92 percent complete.

Hay and forage supplies were rated 2 percent very short, 16 short, 77 adequate and 5 surplus. Grain and concentrate supplies were 1 percent very short, 6 short, 85 adequate and 8 surplus. Pasture conditions were 55 percent growing compared to 36 percent a year ago. Pasture and range conditions were rated 9 percent very poor, 20 poor, 42 fair, 28 good and 1 excellent.

Planting: Percent Completed

Crop	Week Ending			2000-2004 Avg.
	April 17, 2005	April 10, 2005	April 17, 2004	
	(Percent)			
SMALL GRAINS				
Barley	6	1	8	3
Durum Wheat	6	1	7	2
HRS Wheat	11	3	17	8
Oats	9	4	9	4
LATE SEASON CROPS				
Canola	4	1	4	1
Sugarbeets	1	0	16	6
Dry Edible Peas	5	NA	NA	NA

NA = Not Available

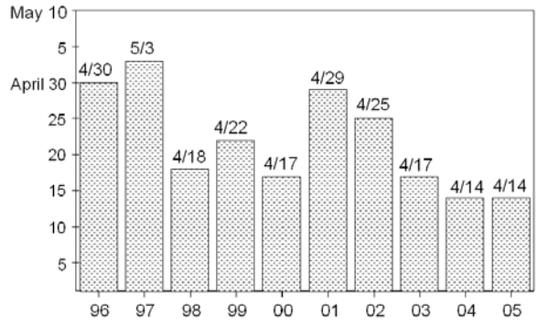
Soil Temperatures: Average soil temperatures on April 17 ranged from a low of 48 degrees F in Langdon and Robinson to a high of 58 in Watford City. These readings reflect daily average temperatures under 4 inches of bare soil recorded by the North Dakota Agricultural Weather Network (NDAWN).

Average Soil Temperatures*, April 17, 2005

Station	Temperature	Station	Temperature
	Degrees F		Degrees F
NORTHWEST		CENTRAL	
Bowbells	50	Carrington	56
Minot	56	Robinson	48
Williston	56	Streeter	51
NORTH CENTRAL		EAST CENTRAL	
Baker	56	Dazey	52
Bottineau	50	Fargo	49
Rolla	53	SOUTHWEST	
NORTHEAST		Bowman	55
Cavalier	55	Dickinson	56
Grand Forks	53	SOUTH CENTRAL	
Langdon	48	Linton	54
WEST CENTRAL		SOUTHEAST	
Turtle Lake	57	Oakes	52
Watford City	58	Wyndmere	52

* Thermometers located 4 inches under bare soil.
Source: NDAWN, Department of Soil Science, NDSU.

Average Starting Date For Fieldwork
North Dakota, 1996-2005



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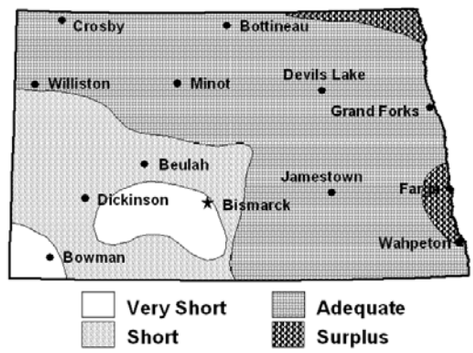
CROP WEATHER

Soil Moisture: North Dakota

Date	Week Ending			2000-2004 Average
	April 17, 2005	April 10, 2005	April 17, 2004	
	(Percent)			
TOPSOIL				
Very Short	7	8	6	5
Short	21	22	19	16
Adequate	67	66	67	67
Surplus	5	4	8	12
SUBSOIL				
Very Short	11	12	11	7
Short	24	22	25	21
Adequate	60	62	60	64
Surplus	5	4	4	8

Topsoil Moisture Supplies
April 17, 2005



Weather: The second week of April began on a wet note. A strong low pressure system brought widespread showers and thunderstorms across most of the state. A trough of low pressure moved across the Red River Valley area on Tuesday, bringing more scattered showers to that area. Rainfall amounts ranged from 0.08 of an inch to just over 1.00 inch. Cool temperatures also prevailed across the state, due to the clouds and rain. Highs ranged from the upper 40s to upper 50s on Monday and Tuesday. A large area of high pressure moved in from Canada, bringing fair weather and warm temperatures on Wednesday. High temperatures were in the 60s to low 70s. Highs reached into the low 80s in the western areas for the weekend. The rest of the state saw highs generally in the 70s under mostly clear skies. Morning lows on Friday and Saturday started out chilly, with lows in the upper 20s to low 30s across the state.

Outlook, April 18-24: Warm temperatures and a chance of thunderstorms will start the third week of April, followed by cooler temperatures for the rest of the week. A low pressure system will move across the state on Monday, bringing a chance of scattered showers and thunderstorms. Winds out ahead of the system will bring humidity and above average temperatures to the state once again. Look for highs generally in the 70s across the west and north to mid-80s southeast. Temperatures behind the system will cool into the 50s to low 60s as an area of high pressure from Canada builds across the state. A lingering trough in the eastern areas will bring scattered showers to those areas on Tuesday. More average late April temperatures will be in store for the rest of the week, with highs generally in the 50s to around 60. Look for a chance of rain in the southwest on Thursday. The weekend will bring a slight chance of showers across the state and temperatures at or slightly above seasonal normals.

Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations
North Dakota, Week ending April 17, 2005

District Averages		Average Temperature		Seasonal Precipitation Beginning April 1		
		Past Week	Depart Normal 1/	Past Week	Total	Depart Normal 1/
		(Degrees F)			(Inches)	
Northwest	(1)	55	5	0.20	0.20	-0.58
N. Central	(2)	53	3	0.33	0.33	-0.52
Northeast	(3)	51	0	0.65	0.65	-0.07
W. Central	(4)	54	4	0.29	0.29	-0.65
Central	(5)	53	3	0.43	0.43	-0.46
E. Central	(6)	52	0	0.52	0.52	-0.52
Southwest	(7)	54	6	0.13	0.17	-0.67
S. Central	(8)	54	4	0.81	0.81	-0.11
Southeast	(9)	52	1	0.62	0.64	-0.38

1/ Normal is the 1961-90 average. NA=Not Available. Weather data collected from NDAWN stations and compiled by UND Aerospace Regional Weather Information Center.

Temperature & Precipitation: Districts and Stations
North Dakota, Week ending April 17, 2005

Stations by District	Temperature Past Week		Seasonal Precipitation Beginning April 1		
	High	Low	Past Week	Total	Depart Normal 1/
	(Degrees F)			(Inches)	
(1) Bowbells	78	34	0.15	0.15	-0.56
Williston	83	30	0.00	0.00	-0.70
Mohall	75	32	0.38	0.38	-0.41
Minot	78	33	0.25	0.25	-0.69
(2) Baker	74	35	0.50	0.50	-0.49
Bottineau	77	24	0.18	0.18	-0.53
Rugby	77	31	0.32	0.32	-0.54
(3) Cando	71	29	0.39	0.39	-0.25
Cavalier	71	32	0.83	0.83	0.18
Forest River	70	36	0.87	0.87	0.01
Grand Forks	70	33	0.34	0.34	-0.40
Langdon	67	32	0.76	0.76	0.19
St. Thomas	68	35	0.71	0.71	-0.15
(4) Hazen	79	28	0.56	0.56	-0.51
Turtle Lake	74	30	0.31	0.31	-0.68
Watford City	82	33	0.00	0.00	-0.75
(5) Carrington	74	33	0.53	0.53	-0.37
Harvey	75	28	0.34	0.34	-0.38
Jamestown	76	32	0.41	0.41	-0.46
Robinson	74	29	0.35	0.35	-0.51
Streeter	74	34	0.50	0.50	-0.59
(6) Dazey	70	33	0.36	0.36	-0.59
Fargo	70	38	0.75	0.75	-0.39
Hillsboro	71	31	0.45	0.45	-0.57
(7) Beach	80	28	0.00	0.11	-0.62
Bowman	82	25	0.00	0.00	-0.75
Dickinson	81	29	0.08	0.08	-0.87
Hettinger	81	26	0.45	0.50	-0.44
(8) Mandan	77	29	1.01	1.01	0.14
Linton	76	35	0.61	0.61	-0.35
(9) Edgeley	76	30	0.65	0.68	-0.41
Oakes	77	29	0.55	0.55	-0.55
Wyndmere	70	33	0.67	0.68	-0.19

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